

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION HEARING**THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Senator Nancy B. Sullivan, Senate Chair
Representative Anne C. Perry, House Chair

POSITION: Dirigo Health Board of Directors

NOMINEE: Jonathan S.R. Beal of Portland and Edmund J. McCann of Hallowell

PUBLIC HEARING: Tuesday, April 25, 2006, 1:00 pm, Room 427 State House

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

Dirigo Health was established by law (24-A MRSA Chapter 87) as an independent executive agency to arrange for the provision of comprehensive, affordable health care coverage to small employers with 50 or fewer employees, their employees and dependents, and individuals on a voluntary basis. Along with the Dirigo Health Insurance program, Dirigo Health is also charged with monitoring and improving the quality of health care in the State through the Maine Quality Forum and with developing disease management protocols for use in the Dirigo High Risk Pool.

Dirigo Health operates under the supervision of Board of Directors, referred to as the "Board." The Board is the governing body of Dirigo Health and is responsible for the appointment of an Executive Director and any necessary staff. Dirigo Health must report annually to the Governor and the Legislature. Annual audits by the State Auditor are also required.

There are 5 voting members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate and 3 ex-officio, nonvoting members--the Director of the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance, the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation and the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services or their designees.

The voting members serve 3-year terms and may serve up to 2 consecutive terms; however, initial terms of appointment are staggered. The Governor appoints one of the voting members as chair of the Board. The Board must meet at least 4 times per year. Meetings of the Board are public proceedings.

Board members must have knowledge and experience in health care purchasing, health insurance, health policy and law, MaineCare, state management and budget or health care financing. Members may not be a current representative or employee of an insurance carrier or health care provider or currently affiliated with a health or health-related organization regulated by State government.

By law, Board members are entitled to receive a \$100 per diem and reimbursement for any necessary expenses while engaged in Board activities.

DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS: Written comments relevant to qualifications of the nominee may be filed with the Legislative Information Office by 9 am on the day of the hearing.

CONTACT PERSON: Teen Ellen Griffin, Legislative Information Office, 100 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0100; 207-287-1692; FAX 207-287-1580; TTY 207-287-6826